

5 aug 65

Subject: Freds LAUNAGS

To: Paul.

On July 17th, 1965 at the Latvian Lutheran Camp in Elka Park N.Y. I met Freds during the children's performance at the camp fire. After the performance we had a talk and he said that he is still unemployed, he does not have a permanent address and that is the reason why he is in the camp, because he can get a place to sleep for dollar a night. Otherwise he sleeps in parks and railroad stations. He explained that he feels fine, because he is free. Of course sometimes he does not have enough to eat, but he feels better if he has to suffer. He is still collecting his unemployment money.

When asked about job opportunities, he said, that he is busy writing poetry and is not very interested in jobs, but the following week he will have an interview. When I said that it will be extremely difficult to find one because of his job record, he said, that he is not too concerned.

The next morning in the Camp I overheard some women telling about the terrible night's event, when in the tent (where Freds was staying) a certain Launags tried to strangle a Latvian from Philadelphia ARSES, fmu.

From Mr. ARSTS I got the following account: He ARSTS was also assigned a place in the tent. He made his bed and had a little walk, and when he returned he found a man sitting on his bed, with a lit candle on a chair writing something. He said that this is his bed and <sup>he</sup> wants to go to sleep. Launags answered that it is not written <sup>on the bed</sup> that <sup>it</sup> is his bed and continued to write. ARSTS said that he will go to the administration to clarify the matter, but at this moment Launags attacked him and threw him <sup>out of the</sup> ~~into~~ bed, and started to strangle him. <sup>ARSTS</sup> somehow got rid of him and ran outside the tent for help. When he and some others arrived, Launags was gone.

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During the night Launags was seen sitting on a bench with a lit candle and writing. ARSTS showed me some scratches on his neck and bruises on his chest. ~~THAT NIGHT~~

Launags had a different version, that ARSTS attacked him while sleeping, because he was drunk and made some noise.

I was soon approached by Mr. NICIS, whom Launags <sup>had</sup> interviewed after <sup>NICIS</sup> ~~his~~ deflection from Latvia <sup>more than a decade ago</sup>. NICIS was very upset and asked me, for advice of the information he had given Launags during the debriefing. He said that he <sup>LAUNAGS told</sup> had given names and addresses of many of his friends in Latvia but I assured him that L. does not remember anything and his reports are in a safe place not accessible to Launags.

The Camp administration asked for my advice what to do. I said, that he should be sent away from the camp, because the parents could be afraid to leave their children. So I informed Launags, that it will be better for him to leave the Camp. He was brought to <sup>nearby</sup> Tannersville, was given \$7.- for the ticket to New York City.

Then I asked Mr. ARSTS to go to the <sup>camp</sup> doctor and be examined. The Dr. wrote up a statement of the bruises and I gave this paper to Mr. LEJINS, one who lived at the same address with L. in New York (Bronx) and who knew him well and he promised to deliver the doctor's statement to Rev. ZARINS in New York, who will be in contact with Dr. SALTUPS, the Brooklyn <sup>hospital</sup> and discuss a possible commitment of Launags.

Report prepared by [ ]  
and handed to [ ]  
his case officer. [ ]